

Rep. Robert Bierman  
579 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Sen. Tou Xiong  
3203 Minnesota Senate Building  
95 University Avenue W.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

March 20, 2023

Dear Rep. Bierman and Sen. Xiong:

As an organization, the Coalition of Recovery Investment (CORI) and our member organizations advocate for much needed funding, reform and increased access for behavioral health illnesses such as substance use disorder (SUD).

We are writing today to support SF1490/HF1771 which would require all payers to reimburse the Psychiatric Collaborative Care Management billing codes.

Depression and other common mental disorders are common, disabling, and associated with high health care costs and substantial losses in productivity, yet only about 25 percent of patients with these disorders receive effective care.

The psychiatric collaborative care model is an evidence-based approach for integrating physical and behavioral health services that can be implemented within a primary care-based setting. The model includes:

- care coordination and care management
- regular/proactive monitoring and treatment to target using validated clinical rating scales; and
- regular, systematic psychiatric caseload reviews and consultation for patients who do not show clinical improvement.

Over 70 studies have shown this integrated model of care improves patient outcomes, save money, and reduces stigma related to mental health. This is exactly the type of innovated models we should be deploying to help Minnesotans suffering from behavioral health illnesses. We thank you for authoring SF1490/HF1771.

If CORI can be of help or if you have questions, please reach out to CORI's consultants, Sarah Erickson, at [sarah.erickson@unitedstrategiesllc.com](mailto:sarah.erickson@unitedstrategiesllc.com) or Tara Erickson at [Tara@tgeconsultingmn.com](mailto:Tara@tgeconsultingmn.com).

Sincerely,

Bill Messinger  
Chair  
Coalition of Recovery Investment